

Amendments to the Claims:

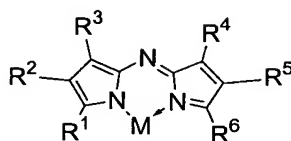
DT04 Rec'd PCT/PTO 22 SEP 2004

Please cancel claims 1-14 and add the following new claims 15-34.

Listing of Claims:

1-14 (cancelled)

15. (new) A compound of the formula



or a salt, metal complex or hydrate or other solvate thereof, wherein:

M is a chelating agent;

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from the group consisting of: H; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, cyclic, moiety; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heterocyclic moiety; or a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl or acyl moiety; and

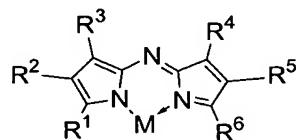
R^2 and R^5 may, in addition, be independently a heavy atom or a water-solubilizing group.

16. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 15, wherein M is selected from the group comprising: BX_2 , wherein each X is independently a halide; Zn; Al; Si; Mg; Lu; and Sn.

17. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 16, wherein M is BF_2 .

18. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 15, wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from the group consisting of: H; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, aryl, moiety; and a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heteroaryl moiety.

19. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 15, wherein R¹ and R⁶ are optionally substituted phenyl.
20. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 19, wherein R¹ and R⁶ contain an electron-donating substituent.
21. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the electron-donating substituent is alkoxy.
22. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 15, wherein R² and R⁵ are selected from chlorine, bromine and iodine.
23. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 15, wherein R² and R⁵ are selected from water-solubilizing groups.
24. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 15, wherein R³ and R⁴ are optionally substituted phenyl.
25. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 24, wherein R³ and R⁴ are substituted by a halide selected from chlorine, bromine and iodine.
26. (new) A compound as claimed in Claim 15 for use in a method of photodynamic therapy.
27. (new) A pharmaceutical composition comprising,
- in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier,
- a compound of the formula



or a salt, metal complex or hydrate or other solvate thereof, wherein:

M is a chelating agent;

R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of: H; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, cyclic, moiety; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heterocyclic moiety; or a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl or acyl moiety; and

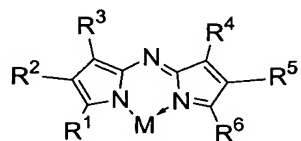
R² and R⁵ may, in addition, be independently a heavy atom or a water-solubilizing group.

28. (new) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 27, wherein M is selected from the group comprising: BX₂, wherein each X is independently a halide; Zn; Al; Si; Mg; Lu; and Sn.

29. (new) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 27, wherein R¹, R², R³, R⁴, R⁵ and R⁶ are independently selected from the group consisting of: H; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, aryl, moiety; and a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heteroaryl moiety.

30. (new) A pharmaceutical composition as claimed in Claim 27, wherein R² and R⁵ are selected from chlorine, bromine and iodine.

31. (new) A method of treating a photosensitive target biological cell *in vivo* or *in vitro*, the method comprising the steps of contacting the target biological cell with an effective amount of a compound of the formula



or a salt, metal complex or hydrate or other solvate thereof, wherein:

M is a chelating agent;

R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from the group consisting of: H; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, cyclic, moiety; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heterocyclic moiety; or a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, straight or branched chain alkyl or acyl moiety; and

R^2 and R^5 may, in addition, be independently a heavy atom or a water-solubilizing group; and then subjecting the photosensitive target biological cell with light absorbed by the said photosensitive cell.

32. (new) A method as claimed in Claim 31, wherein M is selected from the group comprising: BX_2 , wherein each X is independently a halide; Zn; Al; Si; Mg; Lu; and Sn.

33. (new) A method as claimed in Claim 31, wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , R^4 , R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from the group consisting of: H; a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, aryl, moiety; and a substituted or unsubstituted, saturated or unsaturated, heteroaryl moiety.

34. (new) A method as claimed in Claim 31, wherein R^2 and R^5 are selected from chlorine, bromine and iodine.